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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/729,276	12/03/2003	Wasimul Haque	12695.13USD2	1586

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EXAMINER	
SPIVACK, PHYLLIS G	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
1614	

DATE MAILED: 01/26/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/729,276	HAQUE ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Phyllis G. Spivack	1614	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *05 December 2004*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-6* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-6* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

A Preliminary Amendment filed December 5, 2003, in which priority information is amended, is acknowledged. Claims 1-6 are presented and represent all of the claims under consideration.

An Information Disclosure Statement filed March 5, 2004 is further acknowledged. The Examiner regrets the fact that the cited references are not presently available.

The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970);and, *In re Thorington;* 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

Claims 1-6 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 11-18 and 21-28 of copending Application No. 10/411552. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because of overlapping subject matter.

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

Claims 1-6 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1 and 20 of copending Application No. 10/639955. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because of overlapping subject matter. The open language of instant claim 1 allows for the inclusion of any number of other agents in the claimed method.

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. The claims are directed to the treatment of cerebral ischemia, cerebral hemorrhage, ischemic stroke or hemorrhagic stroke comprising administering pyridoxal-5'-phosphate, pyridoxal, pyridoxine or pyridoxamine. The specification provides support for the treatment of cerebral ischemia in a rat model comprising administering pyridoxal-5'-phosphate.

Attention is directed to In re Wands, 8 USPQ2d 1400 where the court set forth factors to consider when assessing whether or not a disclosure would require undue experimentation. These factors are:

1) the quantity of experimentation necessary

2) the amount of direction or guidance provided

3) the presence or absence of working examples

4) the nature of the invention

5) the state of the art

6) the relative skill of those in the art

7) the predictability of the art and

8) the breadth of the claims.

The instant specification fails to provide guidance that would allow the skilled artisan background sufficient to practice the instant invention without resorting to undue experimentation in view of further discussion below.

The nature of the invention, state of the prior art, relative skill of those in the art and the predictability of the art

The claimed invention relates to treatment of ischemic or hemorrhagic diseases. .

The relative skill of those in the art is generally that of a Ph.D. or M.D.

Each particular ischemic or hemorrhagic neurologic disease or disorder has its own specific characteristics and etiology. The broad recitation "treating cerebral ischemia, cerebral hemorrhage, ischemic stroke or hemorrhagic stroke" is inclusive of many etiologic events and factors that presently have no established successful therapies.

It is clear the art to which the present invention relates is highly unpredictable and unreliable with respect to conclusions drawn from laboratory data extrapolated to clinical efficacy.

The breadth of the claims

The specification fails to provide support for the breadth of the claimed subject matter.

The amount of direction or guidance provided and the presence or absence of working examples

The working example is limited to the treatment of cerebral ischemia in a rat model comprising administering pyridoxal-5'-phosphate.

The quantity of experimentation necessary

Applicants have failed to provide guidance as to which among the claimed compounds would be preferred for treatment of the recited conditions, cerebral ischemia, cerebral hemorrhage, ischemic stroke or hemorrhagic stroke. The skilled artisan would expect the effect of a particular compound in the treatment of cerebral hemorrhage or hemorrhagic stroke to be very specific and highly unpredictable absent a clear understanding of the structural and biochemical basis for each agent. The instant specification sets forth no such understanding or any criteria for extrapolating beyond the administration of pyridoxal-5'-phosphate to treat cerebral ischemia. No direction is provided to treat any other condition besides cerebral ischemia. Absent reasonable *a priori* expectations of success for using a particular chemotherapeutic compound to treat a particular hemorrhagic disease, one skilled in the neurology art would have to test each of the claimed agents to discover which particular hemorrhagic or ischemic condition responds to a particular compound. Since each prospective embodiment, as well as future embodiments as the art progresses, would have to be empirically tested,

undue experimentation would be required to practice the invention as it is claimed in its current scope. The specification provides inadequate guidance to do otherwise.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Skochii et al., Likars'ka sprava / Ministerstvo okhorony zdorov'ia Ukrainy, (Sept.-Dec., 1994) (9-12) 109-11 (abstract).

The Ukrainian document teaches the administration of pyridoxalphosphate in the treatment of cerebral stroke. Neither pyridoxal-5'-phosphate, or, ischemic or hemorrhagic stroke is specifically recited. However, it would have been reasonable to expect the 5'-phosphate salt, as well as any type of cerebral stroke, are broadly encompassed in the recitation. The determination of optimal dosages and modes of administration are parameters that are well within the purview of those skilled in the art through no more than routine experimentation.

No claim is allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Phyllis G. Spivack whose telephone number is 571-272-0585. The Examiner can normally be reached Monday to Friday from 10:30 AM to 7PM.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful after one business day, the Examiner's supervisor, Chris Low, can be reached at 571-272-0951. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Phyllis Spivack

Phyllis G. Spivack
Primary Examiner PHYLLIS SPIVACK
Art Unit 1614 PRIMARY EXAMINER

January 23, 2005